



March 17, 2016

North Carolina's Digital Infrastructure

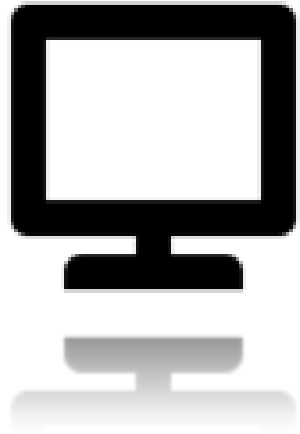
Jeff Sural

Director, Broadband Infrastructure Office



DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

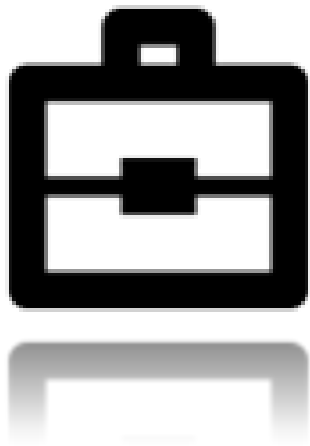
KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 2015



**STATE BROADBAND
PLAN**



**COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**



**STATE AGENCY
COORDINATION**



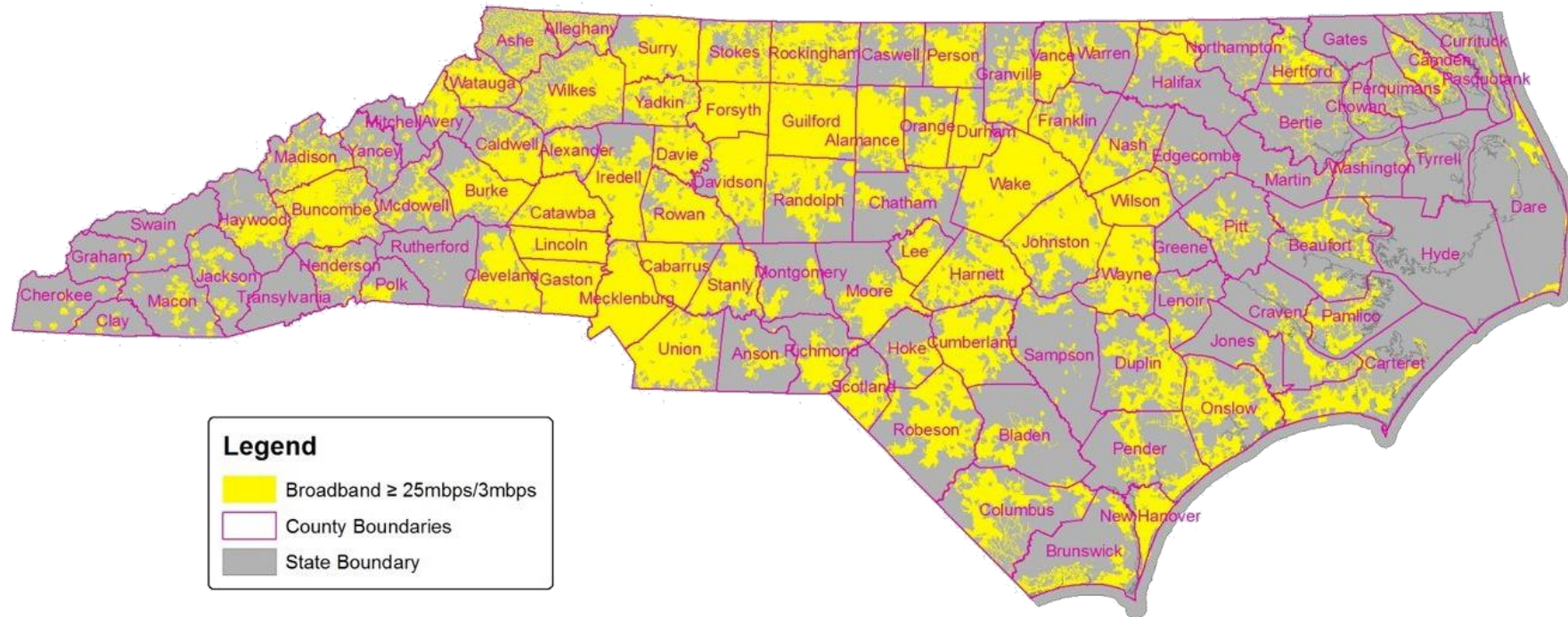
**ADOPTION
INITIATIVES**



CURRENT PICTURE BROADBAND AVAILABILITY

SPEED

≥ 25 MBPS DOWNLOAD



CURRENT PICTURE

BROADBAND AVAILABILITY

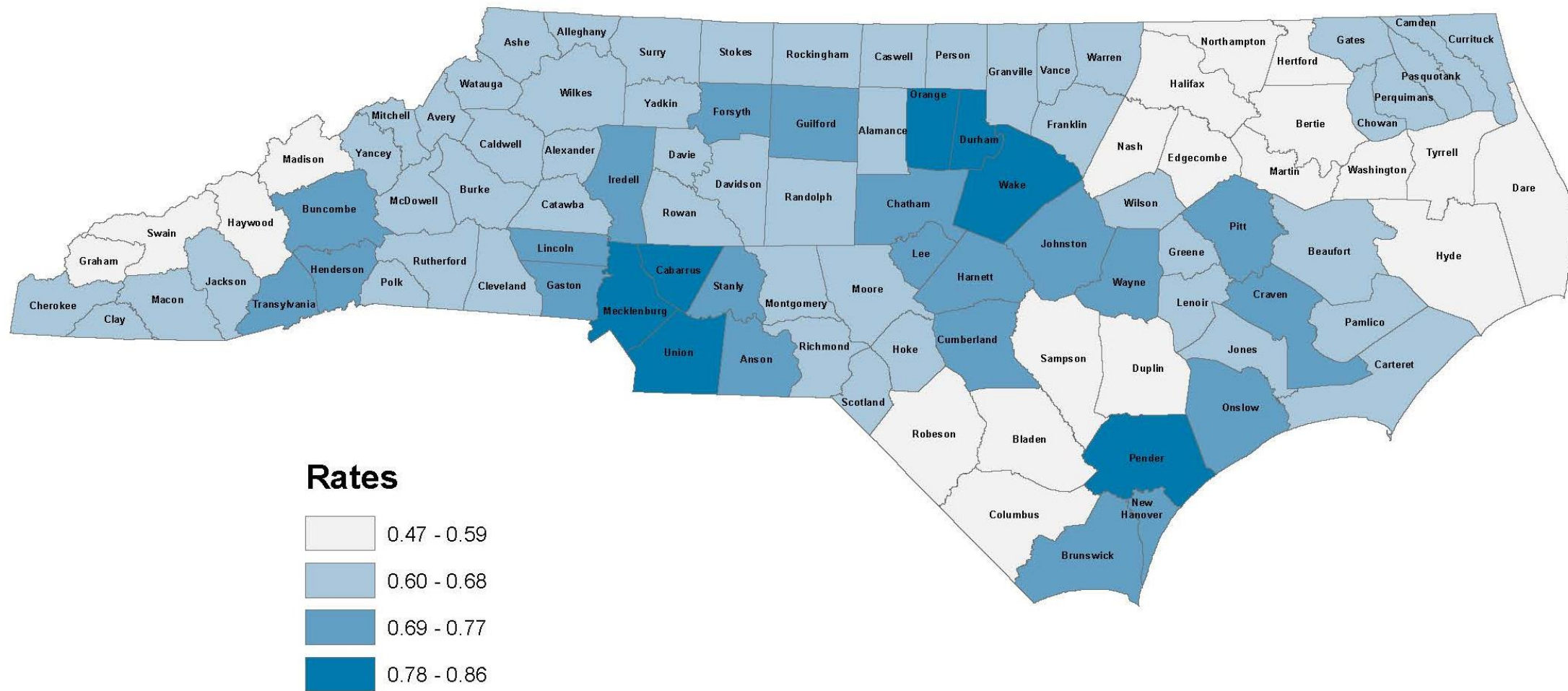
738,306 North Carolinians (7%) - no access to broadband

661,224 or 89% live in rural North Carolina

Source: FCC 2016 Broadband Progress Report



Broadband Adoption in NC



A NEW APPROACH BROADBANDIO

One lesson from the last year is that in a few years, the **gigabit divide** will **NOT** be about ***wealth*** or ***density***; it will be between those ***communities*** that had a ***plan*** and those who didn't.

- Blair Levin



SUCCESSES AND MOMENTUM



SUCCESSFUL USDA GRANT DEPLOYMENT

YANCEY COUNTY

Residential customers can get 500 megabits-per-second connections



BUILDING ON REGIONAL SUCCESS

AVERY COUNTY

Aggregated demand & mapped; conducting inventory assessment and assisting with USDA grant



CONTINUED INVESTMENT

CONNECT AMERICA

More than \$19 million in annual funding during the next six years will help with the buildout of broadband service



ACTIVE AND ENGAGED

Graham
County

Vance
County

McDowell
County

Swain
County

Jackson
County

Wayne
County

Catawba
County

Watauga
County

Jones
County

Alexander
County

Orange
County

Haywood
County



ACTIVE AND ENGAGED

Public Safety

Working with private sector to test small cell technology in difficult environments, like hospitals

Appalachian Regional Commission

Grant program for small downtown WiFi network

NC Department of Commerce

Working closely to identify projects that could benefit from various economic development grant funds

Friday Institute

Homework Gap pilot project partnering with schools and providers

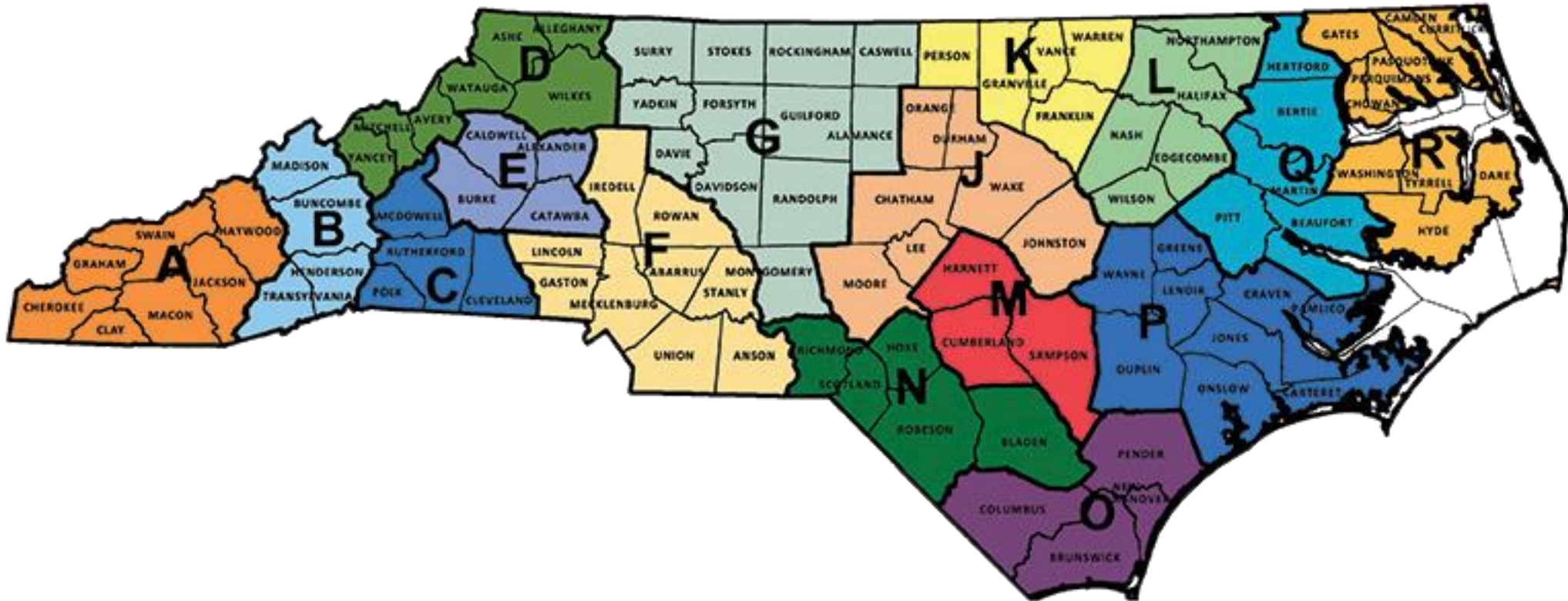
Libraries

Assisting State Librarian to create library consortium to leverage federal grant dollars



STRATEGY

CREATING REGIONAL INITIATIVES



THANKS FOR YOUR TIME

CONTACT US

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